

Applicant: Westhoff et al.
Application No.: 09/395,106

one of said ends having a flange lying in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said housing; and

an interior surface of said housing having a portion thereof provided with a plurality of annular inwardly projecting spaced apart projections; and

said closed end having an exterior surface with at least a portion of the exterior surface lying entirely in a plane being inclined relative to said longitudinal axis.

Cancel claim 45.

REMARKS

The present application contains claims 21-26, 30-36 and 41. Claims 21 and 41 have been amended. Claim 45 has been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Tran A for the courtesy of conducting a telephone interview and for the helpful comments put forth in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application. The subject matter discussed during the interview is set forth below.

The Examiner, in response to the prior amendment pointed out that the Examiner is of the opinion that some portion of the conical-shaped flange of Brooks may lie in a plane.

It was pointed out during the telephone interview that any plane cutting through the conical-shaped flange of Brooks would create a line and not a plane. Nevertheless, and with a view toward expediting the prosecution of the present

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application and in view of the fact that the Examiner indicated that the claims would be given favorable consideration if the claims recite that the diagonally aligned flange lies entirely within a diagonally aligned plane, claims 21 and 41 have been so amended.

Claim 46 has been canceled for the reason that it recites substantially the same limitation already contained within claim 41, namely that the flange lies in a diagonally aligned plane and hence claims nothing more than what is already set forth in claim 41.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is submitted that claims 21 through 26 and 41 are now allowable, claims 22 through 26 all depending from claim 21, and reconsideration and allowance of these claims together with already allowed claims 30 through 36, are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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LW/bbf
Enclosure

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Examiner: Phi D Tran A

**37 CFR §1.121(b)(1)(iii) and (c)(1)(ii) SPECIFICATION
AND CLAIM AMENDMENTS- MARKED UP VERSION**

21. (Four times Amended) An insert adapted to be embedded in a cast member for force-fittingly receiving a leg portion of a step, said insert being comprised of:

a hollow, substantially cylindrical-shaped elongated housing having an open end and a closed end;

one of the open end and the closed end having a flange lying entirely in a plane diagonally aligned with a longitudinal axis of said housing;

another one of the open end and the closed end having a flange lying in a plane perpendicular to said longitudinal axis;

an interior surface of said housing having a portion thereof being provided with a plurality of projections arranged at spaced intervals and extending radially inward;

each of the plurality of projections having a tapering cross-section defined by a first surface diagonally aligned with the longitudinal axis and facing the open end and a second surface perpendicular to said longitudinal axis and facing the closed end.

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41. (Twice Amended) An insert which is embedded in a cast member for force-fittingly receiving a leg portion of a step, said insert being comprised of:

a hollow, substantially cylindrical-shaped, elongated housing having a generally smooth cylindrical outer surface and having an open end and a closed end;

one of said ends having a flange lying in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said housing; and

an interior surface of said housing having a portion thereof provided with a plurality of annular inwardly projecting spaced apart projections; and

said closed end having an exterior surface with at least a portion of the exterior surface lying entirely in a plane being inclined relative to said longitudinal axis.

Cancel claim 45.